Militants Hiding in Bhutan Forests

2425. DR. M.N. DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that Assam militants hiding in Bhutan forests have created havoc in Bhutan and also in various parts of our country;

(b) if so, whether Bhutan has shown its inability to flush out ultras from their country;

(c) whether Bhutan has urged India to help them in flushing out these ultras;

(d) if so, whether both the countries have agreed to have a joint inspection force to meet the menace of ultras and also help Bhutan in tackling these ultras; and

(e) to what extent these steps have reduced their activities in Assam and its neighbouring areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) to (e) The government is aware about the existence of camps of North East Indian Insurgent Groups in Bhutan, which are being used by them for safe havens, sanctuary, training purposes and launching of operations against Indian civilians and security forces.

The Government has taken up the matter with the Royal Government of Bhutan, who have assured that they will not allow these elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to the interests of India. India and Bhutan are in close touch on this issue.

Central Assistance for Golden Temple Galiara project

2426. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance given by the Central Government to Punjab for the Golden Temple Galiara project; and

(b) by when the entire work is likey to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The Government of India has released Rs. 70 crores to the Government of Punjab for the Galiara Project.